red eye

Thursday
APRIL 21, 2016

★ FREE ★

A Chicago Tribune publication

Choose your own dining adventure with a progressive dinner: 3 courses at 3 different spots
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Capt. Toews does it all

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Happy bday, Queen Elizabeth *3*

That 'Castle' cast change is so bad, ABC *12*

Comedy to catch this weekend *17*

BY SAMANTHA NELSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@REDEYECHICAGO.COM » GET MORE SPONTANEOUS EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYECHICAGO.COM

EAT

FREE

STAND UP STAND UP TURNS FOUR

The Crocodile
1540 N. Milwaukee Ave. 312-714-2291

The weekly Wicker Park comedy showcase celebrates its anniversary with free pizza, $4 Brooklyn brown ale and sets by Kristen Toomey, Dave Helem, Nate Simmons and Jeff Hansen. 8 p.m.

DRINK

KUSHI-AGE SAKE TASTING

Izakaya Mita
1960 N. Damen Ave. 773-799-8677

Try southern Japanese sakes paired with deep-fried street food including skewered pork cutlet, panko-breaded okra and brined squid with cream cheese. 6-9 p.m. $40. Reservations recommended.

DO

'EVEN LONGER AND FARTHER AWAY'

The Den Theatre
1333 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-697-3830

The New Colony presents the world premiere of Chelsea Marcantel's drama about a man who finds himself stuck in a town not found on a map while hiking the Appalachian Trail. 7:30 p.m. $20. Tickets: **thenewcolony.org**

'LYRA HILL: THREE PERFORMANCES'

Gene Siskel Film Center
164 N. State St. 312-846-2800

The comics artist and filmmaker leads a discussion and screening of three of her short works, including a new piece created for the Chicago theater incorporating drawings animated by three alternating slide projectors. 6 p.m. $11. Tickets: **siskelfilmcenter.org/cate**

'GAME, SET, MATCH'

Under The Gun Theater
956 W. Newport 773-270-3440

Two teams of improvisers compete against each other with audience members suggesting the theme for each scene and then scoring the performance. 7:30 p.m. $12. Tickets: **underthegun theater.com**

3-DAY FORECAST

THURSDAY
68 53
So warm!

FRIDAY
53 42
Temp drop

SATURDAY
57 40
Sunshine!

HAPPY HOUR OF THE DAY Fremont (15 W. Illinois St. 312-874-7270) offers unlimited East Coast oysters and rosé wine for $20 from 6-8 p.m.

Five-year-old Lucas is battling leukemia for a second time

FOR THE KIDS MOVE 5K RUN WALK

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Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

MOVE FOR KIDS LIKE LUCAS

on Sunday May 15

luriechildrens.org/MoveForTheKids

This event raises life-saving funds for the patients of Lurie Children's.

Queen Elizabeth II
GETTY IMAGES

Queen Elizabeth II celebrates 90

A look at the highs & lows of her reign

Associated Press

LONDON Queen Elizabeth II marks her 90th birthday on Thursday as Britons and many throughout the world celebrate her long and dignified reign. She will celebrate again in June with national events to mark her official birthday. Here are answers to some questions about the queen's extraordinary life and times:

WHY TWO BIRTHDAYS A YEAR? ISN'T ONE ENOUGH?

It may seem excessive, but the British monarch celebrates his or her birthday twice a year, once on the actual day (for Elizabeth, April 21), and once in early June, when the event can be marked with the gala Trooping the Color parade in central London. The June date is chosen in part because the famously fickle British weather just might produce a few sunny hours at that time of year. And the Buckingham Gardens are gloriously in bloom.

WHEN DID SHE BECOME QUEEN?

Elizabeth's life was changed forever in 1936 when her uncle, King Edward VIII, abdicated so he could marry his divorced lover, Wallis Simpson. This made her father the king and Elizabeth heir to the throne. King George VI's health failed, however, and he was too ill for a planned tour of the Commonwealth in 1952, so he sent Elizabeth and her husband, Prince Philip, in his place. They were staying in a remote part of Kenya on Feb. 6, 1952, when she was told that the king had died. She automatically became queen upon her father's death, although the official coronation did not take place for more than a year.

HOW DID ELIZABETH WEATHER WORLD WAR II?

Elizabeth was a young princess during World War II, and her father King George VI was concerned for her safety as London came under the repeated German bombing raids known as The Blitz. She and her sister Princess Margaret were moved to Windsor Castle, about 25 miles west of London, for security reasons. She later persuaded her parents to let her serve in the Auxiliary Territorial Service, where she learned how to drive and repair ambulances and trucks as part of the war effort.

HAS THE QUEEN EVER COMPLAINED IN PUBLIC?

No, that's just not done. The closest Elizabeth has come to exhibiting human frailty to her subjects was in 1992, when she made a rare admission that her life, so picture-perfect on the outside, was marred by the marital woes of three of her four children. She didn't complain in English, however, looking to Latin to proclaim it had been something of an "annus horribilis"—a horrible year that included a disastrous fire at her beloved Windsor Castle.

WHAT WAS THE LOW POINT OF HER MONARCHY?

This would undoubtedly be the stormy days that followed Princess Diana's sudden death in a car crash in August 1997. The princess was tremendously popular, and many held the royal family responsible for her unpleasant divorce from Prince Charles. The queen was castigated in the press for not returning to London immediately after Diana's death and for not flying the royal standard atop the palace at half-staff as a sign of respect. Thousands of mourners placed flowers at the gates of Kensington Palace, Diana's residence, and many complained the queen was insensitive and out of touch.

WHO WAS HER FAVORITE PRIME MINISTER?

You'd have to ask her. And she won't tell.

DOES THE QUEEN PLAN TO RETIRE?

The strong-willed and able-bodied queen has given no indication she plans to leave the throne, and has described her unique position as a "job for life." Her own mother lived to be 101, and was generally in fine fettle in her final years. Still, it is possible Elizabeth would step down if she developed severe problems that made it impossible for her to carry out her role.

PRINCE CHARLES IS ALREADY 67. COULD THE QUEEN ARRANGE THINGS SO GRANDSON PRINCE WILLIAM WOULD SUCCEED HER?

No. This is a constitutional monarchy, with rules of succession.

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threesome

3 PERSPECTIVES ON ONE RELATIONSHIP QUESTION

Welcome to "Threesome." Each week, we'll take a look at a relationship question from the public and have three panelists give their insights. Have a question to ask? Shoot it over to us on Twitter at **@redeyechicago** or on our Facebook page. If it's a little more private, feel free to email it to **redeye@redeyechicago.com** with the word "Threesome" in the subject line.

So this girl I've been seeing these past two months just told me that I don't remember anything she tells me. I mean, yeah, I don't remember everything she's told me up to this point, but I do remember some stuff about her. Now I feel like a [bleep]hole. She remembers stuff about me all the time, but I can't remember that much stuff about her. ... What do I do? *—Question via Reddit*

Fred
Single, 35
» Host of "Fred and Angi in the Morning" on 103.5 KISS-FM
» @fredonair

Don't you wish they had VH1's "Pop-Up Video" for people? Like when you look at someone, little bubbles emerge that provide you with historical and "oh, wow" facts ... and also provide all the medication they are taking, venereal diseases they are carrying, a credit score and any present daddy issues. It sounds like you need to listen up if you want to keep this lady around. Maybe sit her down and have her fill out a detailed questionnaire that you can carry with you and refer to? At the very least, you need to let her know that learning about her is a priority. Nobody likes to feel like they aren't being heard, and you quite clearly aren't paying attention.

Michelle Lopez
Married, 32
» Designer, Web editor for The Mash
» @michelleglopez

It's healthy to feel like a [bleep]hole sometimes. It allows you to check yourself, evaluate what went wrong, try to fix it and do some self-growth along the way. After all, she kind of has a point—it's only been two months. If you aren't really retaining important details about her life, how invested are you in this relationship? Fixing this is going to take some effort, but it should be easy if you are genuinely interested and care about her.

After your next date, do a little mental recap of your time together. Was there anything interesting you learned about her? File it away, either mentally or in your phone. Use those tidbits for inspiration and surprise her with a romantic gesture.

Ultimately, she shouldn't get mad if you don't recall the names of all her co-workers, but you should probably remember that she's allergic to nuts. Easy guideline: If it means something special to her, then it should be important for you to remember.

Morgan Olsen
In a relationship, 28
» RedEye Eat & Drink, Lifestyles editor
» @morgancolsen

It's nice to know your partner is listening to you, but don't feel like you need to keep a mental Rolodex of everything she says from here on out. Start filing away little tidbits that are easy for you to remember: her favorite restaurant, her go-to drink order and that best friend she always mentions. As opportunities arise, throw out casual comments that let her know you're listening. (Read: Don't try too hard; that's just annoying.)

When my boyfriend and I were first seeing each other, he picked up on the fact that I usually ordered Goose Island Sofie and stocked his fridge with similar brews he thought I might like the first time I came over. It was a thoughtful gesture that went a long way. The bottom line is, this is a totally redeemable mistake that requires little effort to fix. Just open your ears a little!

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2015-16 STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS
HAWKS
AT ST. LOUIS, 8:30 P.M. THURSDAY, CSN

Jonathan Toews
ERIN HOOLEY/TRIBUNE

CAPTAIN EVERYTHING

SERIOUSLY, JONATHAN TOEWS' LONGTIME NICKNAME DOESN'T DO HIM JUSTICE

By Scott King | FOR REDEYE

Most fans know him as "Captain Serious," but the Blackhawks have known Jonathan Toews to be everything they've needed him to be the past nine seasons.

It's not just how he plays, either, though clearly the 27-year-old's skill is extraordinary. Beyond that, his leadership has been a focal point of the Hawks' dynasty.

For example, when young players land with the Hawks, Toews takes it upon himself to get them acclimated to the team.

"The first time I got called up, early in 2010, Jonny grabbed my phone and put his number in it and said, 'Text me if you need anything,'" former Hawks forward Ben Smith said. "It was very nice for me to see that. He was very humble and down to earth. I'll always remember that."

Toews also sent Smith a text following the 2015 Stanley Cup win to let him know he was "a big part" of the success despite getting traded in March of that year.

It doesn't take long before players new to the Hawks buy what Toews is selling.

"You can really see he loves to compete, do everything he can to win the games, win the championships and everything," said forward Teuvo Teravainen, in his second year with the team. "He's not trying to do too much. He's just a calm guy, an unbelievable role model for young players."

Teravainen also shed some light on just how serious Toews is.

"Sometimes yes," he said. "He's pretty funny too sometimes. So he can be serious, [but] he can be whatever he wants to be. He's a great guy, I think."

One teammate who has helped Toews distance himself from his persistent nickname is Andrew Shaw. The two waged a prank war last year that resulted in hefty room service bills and a malfunctioning toilet.

"I think it cooled down a little bit [this season]," Shaw said. "You never know, though."

Playing on Toews' line for much of this season, Shaw has gotten a good look at what the captain does on the ice.

"He wins all those little one-on-one battles," he said. "You might not notice it as a fan, but when you're playing with him, when he's always coming up with those loose pucks and getting pucks in or out, it's huge for your game."

Shaw and Toews have taken their off-ice bromance to Twitter.

"I guess in a way we just wanted to have a little fun with it there," Toews said of the tweets between the two, including one in which he jokingly called Shaw a "little puke." "I think that generated a little bit of attention off the hop. I think it's good. I think fans love to see that, the way these guys are in the locker room and their personal lives a little bit."

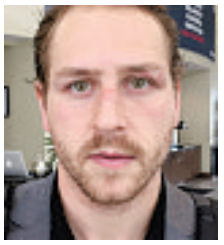
Perhaps it was at the beginning of his career when Toews got stuck with the nickname.

"Maybe when he was younger—younger

BEARD MEN

Day 9

The tradition continues! For as long as they're alive in the Stanley Cup playoffs, the Blackhawks' Andrew Desjardins and Dale Wiese will try to outgrow RedEye Photo Editor Lenny Gilmore and contributor Scott King.



Andrew Desjardins
@AndrewDesjardin

Dale Weise
@daleweise22

Lenny Gilmore
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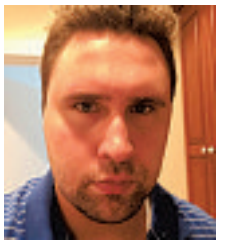

Scott King
@scottkingmedia

JOIN THE FIGHT
As you watch the facial fur fight unfold, the Hawks ask fans to join the NHL's Beard-A-Thon in whatever way they choose. For information, visit **beardathon.com/blackhawks.**

> "Looking back, I probably didn't realize how big a responsibility it was, and how much I even had to learn in that situation. But I think sometimes when you're young, you're naive, you're confident."
> —Blackhawks captain **Jonathan Toews,** about being named captain

guys get picked on for certain things," Hawks goaltender Corey Crawford said. "Jonny's always been a funny guy and likes to joke around when it's time. I don't think he's ever been 'Captain Serious' since I got here. There's times to be serious."

Toews has made being the captain that sparked Chicago's hockey renaissance, including leading the team to three Stanley Cups, look easy. To him, his captaincy has been a learning process he's been quite, well, serious about.

"Looking back, I probably didn't realize how big a responsibility it was, and how much I even had to learn in that situation," he said. "But I think sometimes when you're young, you're naive, you're confident.

"I maybe had some innate abilities that showed some potential for leadership or a leadership position such as a captaincy, so I think that's why I was chosen in that regard. But I think even now with the experience that I do have, and being surrounded by guys like Duncan [Keith], Seabs [Brent Seabrook] and Hoss [Marian Hossa] and Kaner [Patrick Kane], other leaders within our room, there's always something to learn from others, and I'm just trying to grow in that respect. Got a long ways to go, but definitely made some steps since then, I hope."

According to Crawford, it's not steps the two-time Olympic gold medalist has made in being a player and a leader, but giant leaps.

"He seems to be scoring a lot of game-winners," Crawford said. "He's always been that player. He's always been that guy where [if] the team needs big goals, it seems like he's stepped up and scored them. He was a special player before, but now he's grown into a really special player."

SCOTT KING IS A REDEYE CONTRIBUTOR. @SCOTTKINGMEDIA

SERIES SCHEDULE

GAME	DATE	WHERE	TV
Game 1		*St. Louis 1, Blackhawks 0 (OT)*	
Game 2		*Blackhawks 3, St. Louis 2*	
Game 3		*St. Louis 3, Blackhawks 2*	
Game 4		*St. Louis 4, Blackhawks 3*	
Game 5	8:30 p.m. Thursday	at St. Louis	CSN
Game 6	TBA, Saturday	United Center*	TBA
Game 7	TBA, Monday	at St. Louis*	CSN

*** IF NECESSARY**

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Shaw's words cut much deeper than one mistake

Matt Lindner
» redeye@redeyechicago.com
» @mattlindner

The Blackhawks' latest black eye is worse than any playoff loss.

If somebody you worked with called one of your co-workers what cameras caught Andrew Shaw calling a referee on Tuesday, what do you think the reaction would be among your peers?

Heck, if you heard some guy at a bar call another guy the six-letter F-word, how do you think other patrons would take it?

Shaw shouldn't play against St. Louis in Game 5 on Thursday not just because of what he said—there's no excuse for calling someone the homophobic slur he used Tuesday—but because he should know better. The NHL obviously agrees, as he has been suspended for Thursday's game and will be required to undergo sensitivity training.

Shaw likely wasn't thinking when he said what he said. It likely was a reflex, and yet the fact that the Hawks forward threw that word around, even in the heat of competition, speaks to a larger issue.

Andrew Shaw
CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE

As Tribune reporter Chris Hine, who is openly gay, so eloquently put it: "The fact [Shaw] felt he could use that word like it was another four-letter word is the problem."

There is no excuse for anyone, let alone a pro athlete on his sport's biggest stage in a city known for its acceptance and celebration of its LGBTQ community, to ever use language like that. Doing so doesn't make you look cool. It doesn't make your argument more convincing.

It makes you look like a thoughtless bigot.

And yet we still see—and hear—that word. In casual conversation, in comments on Facebook posts, from adults who should know better than to use it as if it's "just another four-letter word."

We as a society need to go out of our way to eradicate that word from our vernacular. If one of your Facebook friends is using it, call them out on it. If you hear it bandied about in casual conversation, let that person know that kind of thing is unacceptable.

Shaw, to his credit, has been contrite about his mistake. But it doesn't end with him. Lawmakers in North Carolina and other states spend entirely too much time worrying about where transgender people use the bathroom (seriously), practicing Christians believe homosexuals are a threat to their religious freedom (they're not), and jocks still use homosexuality as a put-down (they shouldn't).

All of the above are conversations we are having in 2016 when we should be focusing on more important matters.

Shaw claims he has learned his lesson. Hopefully any knuckle-draggers who rushed to defend him have learned one as well.

MATT LINDNER IS A REDEYE CONTRIBUTOR.

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50-54	88.50	73.50	36.00	30.00	18.50	15.50	11.50	9.70
55-59	111.00	92.25	45.00	37.50	23.00	19.25	14.20	11.95
60-64	136.00	103.50	55.00	42.00	28.00	21.50	17.20	13.30
65-69	163.50	126.00	66.00	51.00	33.50	26.00	20.50	16.00
70-74	221.00	171.00	89.00	69.00	45.00	35.00	27.40	21.40
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eat & drink

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Hit the city's top spots with a 3-for-1 plan

coursed out

By Lauren Chval | REDEYE

It seems like this city has more amazing restaurants than we'll ever be able to try. Unlike wearing sleeping-bag coats in April or fighting for space on the CTA, that's one Chicago challenge we'll happily accept.

But what if you could cheat the system? Start the night with drinks and appetizers at the cool newbie, migrate to the tried-and-true staple with rave reviews for dinner and cap off the night with a drool-worthy dessert somewhere else. A progressive dinner could put a twist on your typical night out and help you explore more spots in one evening.

Whether you're looking for a romantic night for two, the chance to meet someone new sans Tinder or a jam-packed evening with friends, we pieced together five personalized dining adventures to choose from. Consider this your roadmap to maxing out your precious weekend hours.

Moneygun

Bee's Knees at Moneygun

Saint. Lou's Assembly

DATE NIGHT WEST LOOP

If you and your main squeeze are going to drag yourselves away from a cozy couch-bound Netflix marathon, it has to be worth the effort. Enter the West Loop with buzzed-about restaurants and bars, a super-walkable terrain and something new popping up every week. If your date nights have morphed into Chipotle runs, it's time to upgrade.

COCKTAILS
Moneygun
660 W. Lake St. 312-600-0600
The new bar on the block is all about the classics and doing them right, so pick out an old favorite or try your mom's go-to sipper. We're thinking sazeracs and sidecars ($10.75 each). Fuel up for the walk to dinner with a light bar snack such as gin- and citrus-cured olives or a smoked cheddar popover ($5 each).

DINNER
Forno Rosso
1048 W. Randolph St. 312-243-6000
After a half-mile stroll from Moneygun, you'll be rewarded with trendy yet traditional Italian fare. This newly opened Neapolitan-style pizza joint has a sleek interior that's built for Instagramming. You can't go wrong with the carbonara pie ($18) with tomatoes, mozzarella, pancetta, egg and black pepper or the locale ($16), which is showered in sausage and mushrooms.

DESSERT
Saint Lou's Assembly
664 W. Lake St. 312-600-0600
Go right back to where you came from (we forgot to mention there's a workout built in) and end the night with a throwback treat. This new upscale cafeteria-style restaurant in Fulton Market has lots to offer, including slices of pecan and strawberry rhubarb pie ($5 each). If you're in the mood for a sweet nightcap, split a banana cognac boozy float ($10).

Dia de los Tamales

@MORGANCOLGEN

FIRST DATE PILSEN

Ugh, first dates. Skip the awkwardness and commit to a culinary adventure in Pilsen. Trying new things together is a great way to bond, so step out of your comfort zone and order the stuff you might usually overlook. Plus, a progressive dinner-style date is multifunctional: If things go south after drinks, there's a natural break to part ways. And if you end up falling in love, there are popsicles at the finish line.

COCKTAILS
Pi-zen
1519 W. 18th St. 312-733-0248
Get things started with a bang. This artsy space offers budget-friendly cocktails with a twist. Ask for the Tamarind Margarita or Mango Con Chile (both $8 each) to give this date a kick. If a snack is in order, nosh on sweet potato fries ($5) or short rib mac 'n' cheese ($10) before dinner.

DINNER
Dia de los Tamales
939 W. 18th St. 312-496-3057
Head down the street for authentic tamales in a casual but cozy space. You're covered whether you want something traditional—like Cuban slow-roasted pork—or a little funky—like Buffalo chicken or roasted pepper goat cheese (all $4 each or two for $7).

DESSERT
La Michoacana Premium
1855 S. Blue Island Ave. 312-226-9600
End the night on a sweet note with Pilsen's most photogenic desserts. The huge selection of paletas de crema, a.k.a. fruit-infused popsicles, go for $2.19 a pop (pun intended). Or you can go with a traditional cone, but remember what we said about trying new things?

Cantina 1910

Appellation

Acre

GROUP OUTING ANDERSONVILLE

It can be nearly impossible to align busy schedules, so make your next group outing count. Head to Andersonville for a charming, feel-good night packed with delicious decisions, great conversation and booze fuel.

COCKTAILS
Appellation
5212 N. Clark St. 773-358-7181
All the wine, please. From the folks who brought you lunchtime favorite Pastoral comes this wine bar-restaurant-cheese shop combo pack. Drop all pretenses and order a bottle (or a few) to divvy up amongst your group. Cure hunger pangs with cheese ($14-$20) or charcuterie plates ($10-$13) to nibble on.

DINNER
Acre
5308 N. Clark St. 773-334-7600
This menu is brimming with savory goodness, perfect for a night out with friends who aren't weird about eating off each other's plates. Try the griddled cheese sandwich ($12) or Acre Harvest salad ($13), and sneak in a round of oyster shooters ($9) for everyone to keep things interesting.

DESSERT
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Buck's

LOOKING FOR LOVE WICKER PARK

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COCKTAILS
Queen Mary Tavern
2125 W. Division St. 773-697-3522
This cozy nautical-themed bar opened late last year with a buzz loud enough to be heard over the neighborhood's crowded nightlife scene. Opt for something delicious that you'll also look great holding, like a martini ($12) or glass of wine.

DINNER
Buck's
1700 W. Division St. 773-384-9700
Up next: a little Southern funk to get you in the mood. While diving into a biscuit sandwich—try the O.G. ($11) with fried chicken, pimento cheese and sausage gravy or the smoked pork belly ($10) with gravy, piccalilli, an egg and okra—see where Southern manners take you.

DESSERT
Stan's Donuts
1560 N. Damen Ave. 773-360-7386
Whether your night is winding down or you need one more thing in your stomach before you go dancing, head north for a quick grab-and-go sugar fix at Stan's. We've never heard a complaint about the blueberry old fashioned ($2.55) or Nutella banana pocket ($3.30).

The Promontory

LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE FILE
The Cove Lounge

Kilwins

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For those nights devoted to getting up to speed on a best friend's life, take your reunion to Hyde Park. These three stops all offer a lively atmosphere with a little privacy for long chats and loving stares.

COCKTAILS
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The self-professed "best dive bar in Chicago" will go easy on your wallet, reminding you of the days when you thought a $5 drink was expensive. Beer specials run daily, but Fridays and Saturdays mean $2.50 Pabst tallboys. Request your bestie ballad on the jukebox and belt it out together before dinnertime.

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DESSERT
Kilwins
5226 S. Harper Ave. 773-675-6731
Don't hold back now. Finish the night strong with fudge from Kilwins, a neighborhood favorite. At $17.95 per pound, it might be safer to nibble on a piece or two. Or hey, get the whole pound. There's a good chance your friend isn't going to judge you.

eat & drink

Win it! Want to try one of our progressive dinners? We'll pay your way. Head to **redeyechicago.com/progressivedinnerchi** and fill out an entry form for a chance to win one of these trips. We'll hook you up with gift cards for each venue ($40 for appetizers, $80 for dinner and $30 for dessert). Now you just have to decide who to invite. Good luck!

Hit the city's top spots with a 3-for-1 plan

coursed out

By Lauren Chval | REDEYE

It seems like this city has more amazing restaurants than we'll ever be able to try. Unlike wearing sleeping-bag coats in April or fighting for space on the CTA, that's one Chicago challenge we'll happily accept.

But what if you could cheat the system? Start the night with drinks and appetizers at the cool newbie, migrate to the tried-and-true staple with rave reviews for dinner and cap off the night with a drool-worthy dessert somewhere else. A progressive dinner could put a twist on your typical night out and help you explore more spots in one evening.

Whether you're looking for a romantic night for two, the chance to meet someone new sans Tinder or a jam-packed evening with friends, we pieced together five personalized dining adventures to choose from. Consider this your roadmap to maxing out your precious weekend hours.

Moneygun

Bee's Knees at Moneygun

Saint. Lou's Assembly

DATE NIGHT WEST LOOP

If you and your main squeeze are going to drag yourselves away from a cozy couch-bound Netflix marathon, it has to be worth the effort. Enter the West Loop with buzzed-about restaurants and bars, a super-walkable terrain and something new popping up every week. If your date nights have morphed into Chipotle runs, it's time to upgrade.

COCKTAILS
Moneygun
660 W. Lake St. 312-600-0600
The new bar on the block is all about the classics and doing them right, so pick out an old favorite or try your mom's go-to sipper. We're thinking sazeracs and sidecars ($10.75 each). Fuel up for the walk to dinner with a light bar snack such as gin- and citrus-cured olives or a smoked cheddar popover ($5 each).

DINNER
Forno Rosso
1048 W. Randolph St. 312-243-6000
After a half-mile stroll from Moneygun, you'll be rewarded with trendy yet traditional Italian fare. This newly opened Neapolitan-style pizza joint has a sleek interior that's built for Instagramming. You can't go wrong with the carbonara pie ($18) with tomatoes, mozzarella, pancetta, egg and black pepper or the locale ($16), which is showered in sausage and mushrooms.

DESSERT
Saint Lou's Assembly
664 W. Lake St. 312-600-0600
Go right back to where you came from (we forgot to mention there's a workout built in) and end the night with a throwback treat. This new upscale cafeteria-style restaurant in Fulton Market has lots to offer, including slices of pecan and strawberry rhubarb pie ($5 each). If you're in the mood for a sweet nightcap, split a banana cognac boozy float ($10).

Dia de los Tamales

@MORGANCOLGEN

FIRST DATE PILSEN

Ugh, first dates. Skip the awkwardness and commit to a culinary adventure in Pilsen. Trying new things together is a great way to bond, so step out of your comfort zone and order the stuff you might usually overlook. Plus, a progressive dinner-style date is multifunctional: If things go south after drinks, there's a natural break to part ways. And if you end up falling in love, there are popsicles at the finish line.

COCKTAILS
Pi-zen
1519 W. 18th St. 312-733-0248
Get things started with a bang. This artsy space offers budget-friendly cocktails with a twist. Ask for the Tamarind Margarita or Mango Con Chile (both $8 each) to give this date a kick. If a snack is in order, nosh on sweet potato fries ($5) or short rib mac 'n' cheese ($10) before dinner.

DINNER
Dia de los Tamales
939 W. 18th St. 312-496-3057
Head down the street for authentic tamales in a casual but cozy space. You're covered whether you want something traditional—like Cuban slow-roasted pork—or a little funky—like Buffalo chicken or roasted pepper goat cheese (all $4 each or two for $7).

DESSERT
La Michoacana Premium
1855 S. Blue Island Ave. 312-226-9600
End the night on a sweet note with Pilsen's most photogenic desserts. The huge selection of paletas de crema, a.k.a. fruit-infused popsicles, go for $2.19 a pop (pun intended). Or you can go with a traditional cone, but remember what we said about trying new things?

Cantina 1910

Appellation

Acre

GROUP OUTING ANDERSONVILLE

It can be nearly impossible to align busy schedules, so make your next group outing count. Head to Andersonville for a charming, feel-good night packed with delicious decisions, great conversation and booze fuel.

COCKTAILS
Appellation
5212 N. Clark St. 773-358-7181
All the wine, please. From the folks who brought you lunchtime favorite Pastoral comes this wine bar-restaurant-cheese shop combo pack. Drop all pretenses and order a bottle (or a few) to divvy up amongst your group. Cure hunger pangs with cheese ($14-$20) or charcuterie plates ($10-$13) to nibble on.

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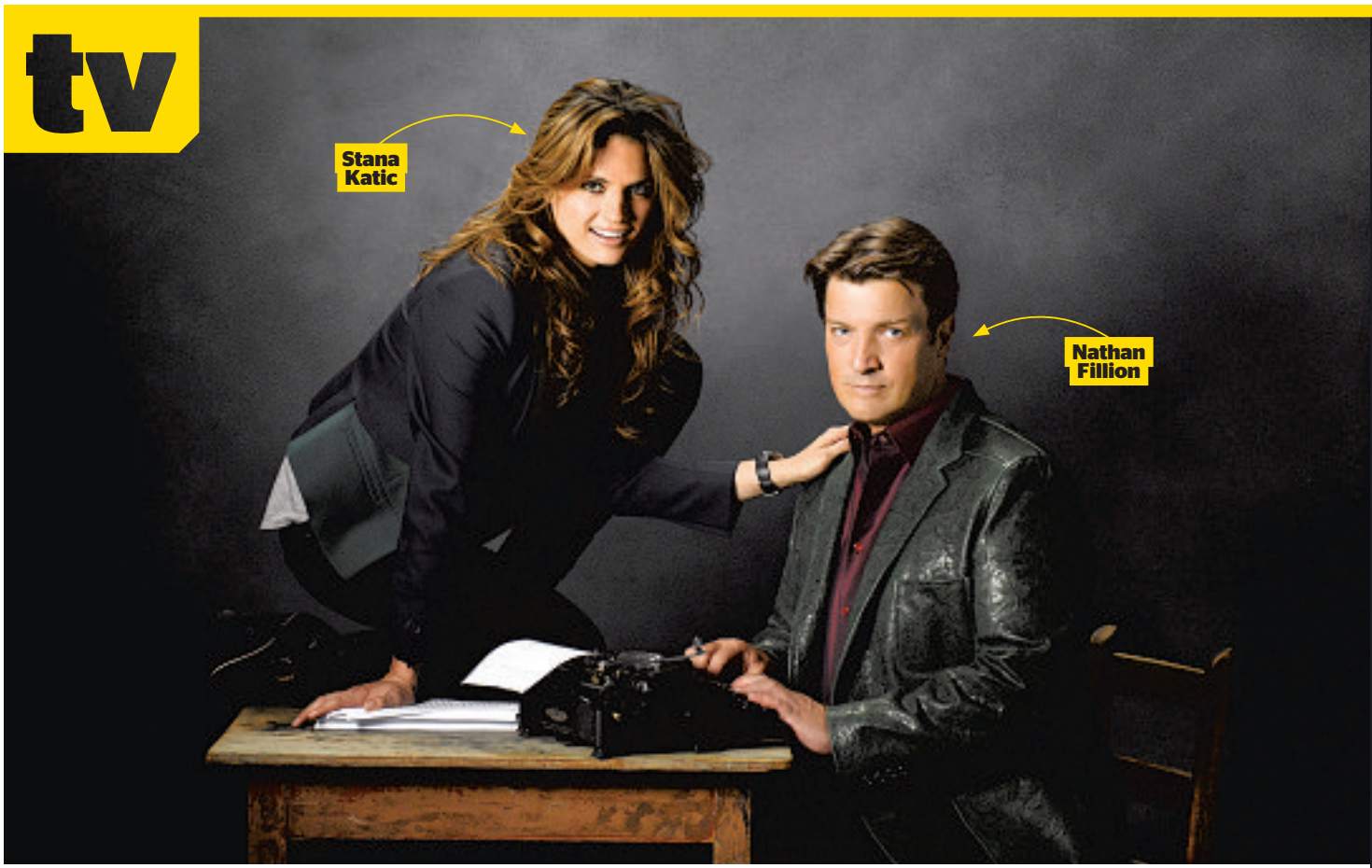
tv



ABC, YOU MADE A HUGE MISTAKE

Sara Amato
» saamato@redeyechicago.com
» @saamato

I needed time to process the news: ABC did not ask Stana Katic, aka Kate Beckett, to return for a possible ninth and final season of its hit procedural dramedy "Castle."

Um, I'm sorry, but what the hell, ABC?

I have a confession: I have not watched "Castle" in quite some time. I fell way behind and never caught up. Past seasons of the show are not available to stream anywhere, making the possibility of a binge catch-up unlikely. Despite this, I still read articles and big episode recaps and stay informed about the show. I knew I'd catch up eventually.

But without Katic? Yeah, right.

Deadline.com reported that ABC made the decision to cut Katic (as well as Tamala Jones, who plays medical examiner Lanie Parish) because it needed to cut costs in the event that the show gets picked up for a ninth season.

THE DIGIT

5.86M

That's how many people tuned in to Monday's episode of Castle. That's the drama's smallest audience since March 7, according to **tvline.com**. The episode aired hours after ABC announced that it did not ask Stana Katic or Tamala Jones back for a possible ninth and final season.

The show—about an author and a cop joining forces to fight crime—also stars Nathan Fillion as titular character Richard Castle.

Reducing costs is common in TV. When "Scrubs" moved from NBC to ABC, the main cast had reduced roles, appearing in fewer episodes to cut costs. It happens. But again, what the hell, ABC?

While the show might be called "Castle," it wasn't just a show about the author and his hijinks. For the better part of eight seasons, a central mystery of the show concerned Beckett and the death of her mother. The show always came back to that mystery.

The police procedural part of "Castle" always came second. People tuned in for the romance, the will-they-won't-they punches to the gut that left us wanting more. For so long, the show built up to Castle and Beckett's romance, and the characters just don't work when they are separated. For the life of me I don't understand why you would cut half the reason people tune in to the show.

Creator Andrew Marlowe—who left the show at the end of the seventh season—had always said that the Castle-Beckett relationship was central to the show. When news broke Monday that Katic was out, he tweeted, "Heartbroken. There are no words."

ABC should do "Castle" fans a favor and let the series end after this current season. The show and its fans deserve better than a Katic-less "Castle."

I can't imagine ABC didn't see this kind of negative reaction coming. Did anyone at ABC have the smarts to ask, "Do people still care about the Castle and Beckett romance?"

Always.

'CASTLE' CAST TWEETS

"...STANA HAS BEEN MY PARTNER ALL THIS TIME, AND I THANK HER FOR CREATING THE CHARACTER OF BECKETT WHO WILL LIVE ON FOR ALL OF US AS ONE OF THE GREATEST POLICE OFFICERS ON TELEVISION. I WISH HER WELL, AND HAVE NO DOUBT SHE WILL SUCCEED IN EVERYTHING SHE PURSUES. SHE WILL BE MISSED."
—**Nathan Fillion** (Richard Castle)

"YESTERDAY WAS A HORRIBLE DAY. YA'LL'RE RIGHT, I DID WORK WITH @STANA_KATIC AND @TAMALAJONES FOR 8 YRS. I LOVE THEM. I'M HEARTBROKEN."
—**Molly C. Quinn**
(Castle's daughter, Alexis)

"TO SAY I'M SAD ABOUT @STANA_KATIC & @TAMALAJONES NOT COMING BACK EVEN IF #CASTLE RETURNS WOULD BE A GROSS UNDERSTATEMENT. #BLOWNAWAY #MOROSE"
—**Jon Huertas** (Detective Javier Esposito)

'OH MAN. @STANA_KATIC HAS BEEN A GOOD PARTNER AND A GOOD FRIEND FOR THE LAST EIGHT YEARS. THANK YOU, STANA."
—**Seamus Dever** (Detective Kevin Ryan)

"SURPRISED AND SADDENED TO HEAR @STANA_KATIC @TAMALAJONES ARE MOVING TO OTHER ARTISTIC PURSUITS CHANGE ALLOWS GROWTH!"
—**Susan Sullivan**
(Castle's mother, Martha)

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Tina Fey (left) and Ellie Kemper in Season 2 of 'Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt'

9 things Tina Fey revealed at Tribeca

'Mean Girls' musical, 'Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt' Season 3 and a 'Kimmy'/'30 Rock' crossover?

Variety

Less than a week after the second season of "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" dropped on Netflix, Tina Fey did not hold back on spoilers during a Q&A at the Tribeca Film Festival on Tuesday. The conversation with TV Guide's Damian Holbrook was a rapid-fire session ranging from hilarious quips about the current presidential election to teases regarding upcoming projects.

1. Fey explained that the role she plays in Season 2 of "Kimmy Schmidt" was one that she had planned for herself from the beginning.

"This is a role that I had in the back of my mind from the moment that we pitched the pilot," she said. "And then in Season 1 I was coerced by the writers to play ... Marcia ... Clark."

"Thank God I went first on that one. Could you imagine?" she added, as a nod to Sarah Paulson's acclaimed performance in "The People vs. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story."

2. Fey later revealed that after watching "American Crime Story" she updated her Television Academy membership specifically so she could vote for acting awards. She wants to vote for Sterling K. Brown (who played Chris Darden) and Paulson.

3. The comedian talked about Kimmy's loss of innocence. "It's one of those things where you kind of rip that Band-Aid off, you know? I mean, that's how I like to think of human sexuality. Like this scabbed-over thing."

Fey admitted she was worried that Ellie Kemper would get pregnant during filming. But the star waited and is currently expecting in August. "So well played, Ellie," Fey joked.

4. For fans hoping for a "Kimmy Schmidt"/"30 Rock" crossover, Fey said it's not out of the question, joking that it would be funny if it turned out that Tituss Burgess' character Titus Andromedon had dated D'Fwan. "I would not put it past us to eat our own tail."

5. She explained plans for the next year. "Normally we would start [writing 'Kimmy Schmidt'] in June. But this year we'll be starting in August, and we'll start shooting in November. And we'll be ready to come back with Season 3 by the end of next May."

6. The comedian reflected on her political satire days at "SNL." "I mean, I feel like looking back on 2008 now, it looks like an episode of 'The Andy Griffith Show.' [This election] it's like 'Ryan Murphy brings you Horror Election.' "

7. Big plans for the "Mean Girls" franchise are in store during her television off-season.

"We're working on the musical adaptation," Fey said. "Thanks to Ellie Kemper's pregnancy, we have all summer to work on it."

Fey said she's not sure if the 2004 movie's references will be updated, since tweets and Facebook don't translate well onscreen. "The thing about social media is it doesn't dramatize."

8. She did, though, give a taste of what the show would look like in the style of the Broadway musical "Hamilton." "I was joking around for my own amusement the other day. ... How does a mathlete, chess king ..." she started rapping to the rhythm of the show's opening number.

9. Successfully sidestepping any details about her involvement in a possible "Hocus Pocus" project, Fey said, "There's a script in development, it is not so much a remake."

The triumphant return of 'Inside Amy Schumer'

By Verne Gay | NEWSDAY

Amy Schumer is one of the hottest people in pop culture at the moment. But you certainly don't need critics or Comedy Central or her recent Emmy or Facebook or Instagram or whatever other barometric instrument of hotness typically offers such deep insights to tell you that.

The Comedy Central hit "Inside Amy Schumer" returns Thursday with an exploration of the theme that "you can never be too exposed." Guest stars this season include Selena Gomez, Jake Gyllenhaal, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Liam Neeson, Harvey Keitel, Laura Linney, Jennifer Hudson, Lena Dunham, Julianne Moore, Josh Charles, Steve Buscemi and—on Thursday's premiere—Lin-Manuel Miranda.

WATCH
Inside Amy Schumer
Season premiere
9 p.m. Thursday, Comedy Central

The first couple of episodes of the new season are mostly terrific, and next week is even better than the launch. The raunchiness is characteristically searing. As fans have long known, Schumer has something to say and doesn't waste anyone's time in saying it.

Her preoccupations remain the same: sex, porn, self-image, the culture's false idols and humanity's willingness to debase itself before them. Also: Men are pigs, and women are either trollops or in servitude to the male lizard brain and its primal fixation on you-know-what.

It's about as bleakly nihilistic a vision as you'll see on TV, but also one of the funniest. There's still that occasional tendency to go overboard, regrettably way overboard, but the message remains the same—we are a horrible species.

Schumer also puts herself front and center as object of parody—exhibit A, if you will—but is such a skillful performer that you almost forget she's the one with the "kick me" sign on her back.

"You are not nothing, you are not nothing, you are not overweight," she says under her breath, before abasing herself in front of "Hamilton" star-creator Miranda, who's conscripted to endure an impromptu staging of her Betsy Ross "hip hopera." (The segment was released online a couple of weeks ago.)

Amy Schumer

Next week, she stars in a nearly priceless Vevo video spoof of a tween pop star so desperate to be near her man that she turns into her man, whiskers and all.

The structure of "Inside" remains the same—why change what's worked so well?—with slickly produced sketches, fake commercials and man/woman on-the-street interviews, or interviews with comedy-circuit pals such as Robert Kelly and Jim Norton. The opening episode introduces a new recurring character, The World's Most Interesting Woman and (of course) a harder-drinking sendup of the Dos Equis counterpart, whose "blood alcohol level is point zero of your business." Next week's episode has a sketch with football stars (including Vernon Davis and Greg Olsen) whose favorite TV reality series is about loser fans. There's another about a pair of Google-like glasses that allow the user to see into the dark hearts of men. A commercial parody explores the nanny/husband affair contagion.

They're all funny and—even better than that—smart.

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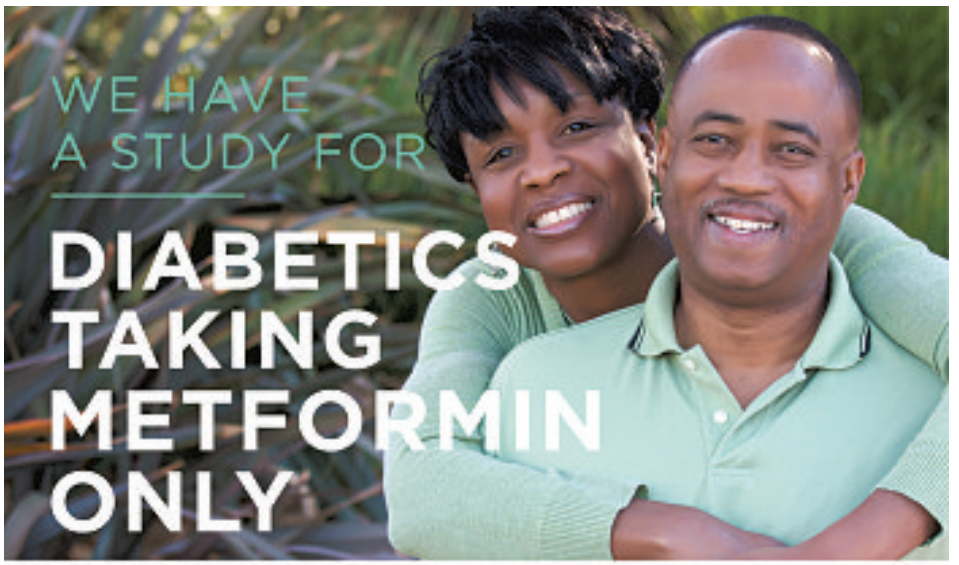

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set the scene

5 CHICAGO SHOWS TO SEE THIS WEEK

By Gwendolyn Purdom | FOR REDEYE

Step away from the Netflix marathon and find your way into one of these local theaters for a belly laugh this week. Your guide to Chicago's affordable and under-the-radar comedy scene awaits.

THURSDAY

What the Hipnonics: The Game Show

The Playground Theater
3209 N. Halsted St. 773-871-3793

Hosted by comedian Marysa Mavrakys, this hip hop-themed game show features contestants Whitney Wasson, Tim Barnes, Tyler Jackson and Max Shanker; a rap battle between Alyssa Rivera and Andy Polacek; and musical guest Jovan. 8 p.m. $5-$10. Tickets: **theplaygroundtheater.com**

FRIDAY

Lincoln Lodge

Subterranean Lounge
2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600

Amy Sumpter, Tommy Mack and Emily Galati are the featured guests in this week's showcase of comedy and music. 8 p.m. $5-$10 suggested donation. Tickets: **thelincolnlodge.com**

Adventures of Reginald Sampson (and the Consequence of Bliss)

iO Chicago
1501 N. Kingsbury St. 312-929-2401

Comedy troupe **Vienna Juvenile Sketch Comedy**'s fourth sketch revue explores the line between reality and the stories we tell ourselves in this opening performance of a monthlong run. 10:30 p.m. $14. Tickets: **iolmprov.com**

SATURDAY

Jen Kirkman Book Release Show

Thalia Hall
1807 S. Allport St. 312-526-3851

Jen Kirkman, the self-deprecating comedian behind best-seller "I Can Barely Take Care of Myself: Tales from a Happy Life Without Kids" and Netflix comedy special "I'm Gonna Die Alone (And I Feel Fine)," celebrates the release of her latest title, "I Know What I'm Doing and Other Lies I Tell Myself" with a stand-up set, reading, Q&A and book signing. 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. $20-$25. Tickets: **thallahallchicago.com**

MONDAY

Sadsacks and Wisecracks

The High-Hat Club
1920 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-697-8560

A top-secret headliner will join comedians Joe Alden McMahon, Carly Ballerini, Cameron Gillette, David Zoe Leon, host Natalie Jose and musical guest Kate Adams in this recurring show. 8 p.m. Free. For more information: **highhat.club**

GWENDOLYN PURDOM IS A REDEYE CONTRIBUTOR. @GWENPURDOM | REDEYE@REDEYECHICAGO.COM

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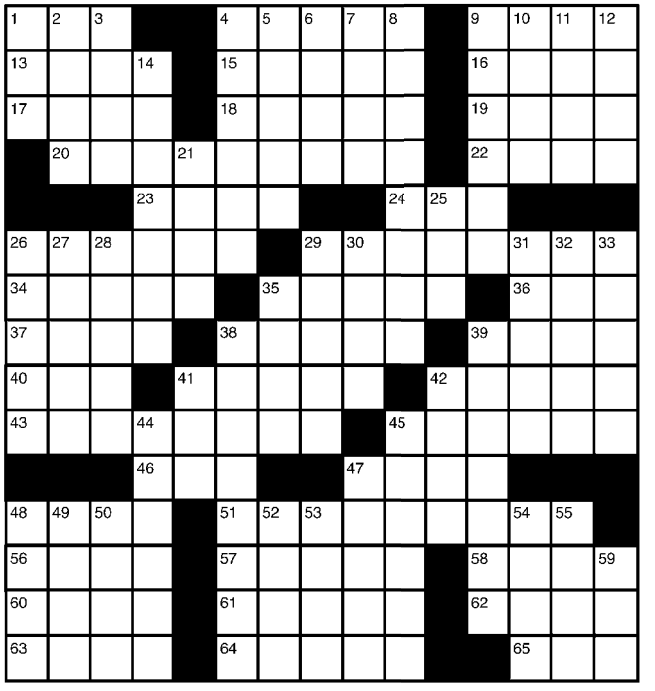
	6			9				1
		8		7			5	9
				4	8	6		
			2	1		8	6	
1								5
	3	6		5	9			
		9	7	2				
4	5			6		9		
6				8			4	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

8	1	6	2	5	9	7	4	3
2	5	3	1	4	7	6	8	9
7	4	9	3	6	8	2	5	1
5	3	1	8	7	4	9	6	2
6	9	7	5	3	2	4	1	8
4	2	8	9	1	6	5	3	7
9	8	4	6	2	3	1	7	5
3	7	5	4	9	1	8	2	6
1	6	2	7	8	5	3	9	4

WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

ACROSS
1 Tavern
4 Kingdom
9 Compact __: CD
13 Drove too fast
15 Golfer __ Els
16 Canyon sound
17 Smidgen
18 Microsoft's Bill
19 Gore or Biden, for short
20 Youth of Greek myth
22 Likelihood
23 __ wolf; lover of solitude
24 Debtor's note
26 Huns' leader
29 Protects from the weather
34 Palm leaf
35 Pursue on foot
36 Sheep's cry
37 Orangey drink
38 __ with; make eyes at
39 Hairdo
40 Cotton gin man
41 Thyroid or pituitary
42 Good judgment
43 Animals with black masks
45 Killer
46 Sweltering
47 Competes
48 "__ jungle out there!"
51 About to occur
56 Place for a horseshoe
57 __ by heart; memorize
58 Requirement
60 Monster
61 Big
62 Fence opening
63 Touches lightly
64 Change slightly
65 Hightailed it



DOWN
1 Fraternity letter
2 Come __; find
3 Phi __ Kappa
4 Capital of Saskatchewan
5 Wipe away
6 Colony insects
7 In __ of; as a substitute for
8 Least tidy
9 Prayerful
10 Frosted
11 Small storage building
12 Police officers
14 Sweetheart
21 Respiratory ailment
25 "Grand __ Opry"
26 Take __; resemble
27 "...flowers that bloom in the spring, __..."
28 Pick-me-up
29 Lower leg parts
30 Difficult
31 Blackish wood
32 Employee's delight
33 TV's Morley __
35 Extended family group
38 Fleet of ships
39 Stopping
41 *Sticky stuff*
42 Winter toy
44 Rubs enough to make raw
45 Confessional booth enterer
47 Brink; threshold
48 Pancake house
49 Caesar's gown
50 __ of; rather
52 Repast
53 Portion
54 Not far-off
55 "__ grip!"; cry to the hysterical
59 Lion's lair

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» A stateless person is someone who does not have a single nation that recognizes them as a citizen.
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2005 SCION TC--BLUE--ROOF--COUPE--XP19575	$3,995.00
2003 VW BEETLE--AUTO--ROOF--YELLOW--P19446B	$3,995.00
2005 BUICK TERRAZA--SILVER--V6--LOADED--P19609A	$4,995.00
2005 TOYOTA PRIUS--BLUE--HYBRID--POWER--14780A	$4,995.00
2006 MERCURY MARINER--SILVER--ROOF--AWD--V6--15144A	$4,995.00
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2013 FORD FIESTA SE--BLACK--4CYL--AUTO--XP19595	$10,995.00
2013 FORD FOCUS SE--RED--POWER--XP19590	$11,595.00
2013 NISSAN SENTRA SV--RED--POWER--XP19598	$11,995.00
2014 FORD FOCUS SE--GARY--ALLOYS--POWER--52926A	$11,995.00
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2006 HONDA RIDGELINE RTL--BLACK--ROOF--LEATHER--NAVI--53064A	$12,995.00
2012 FORD FUSION SPORT--BLACK--3.5 V6--LEATHER--ROOF--52134A	$13,995.00
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red hot

THE QUOTE

"IT'S SO OUTRAGEOUS WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW IN THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE. I THINK SELINA MEYER WOULD HAVE A SHOT AT WINNING—SHE COULD GIVE DONALD TRUMP A RUN FOR HIS MONEY."

—Julia Louis-Dreyfus, to The Hollywood Reporter. Louis-Dreyfus plays Selina Meyer in HBO's "Veep." Her character is a horrible person. It's amazing.

GETTY IMAGES

Do people still watch Lifetime?

Lifetime has announced a bunch of new projects, including movies with Serena Williams and Ronda Rousey, as well as "A Midsummer's Nightmare," a drama series that will put "a horror twist" on Shakespeare plays, according to **variety.com**. They're also planning an autobiographical scripted series with **Selena Gomez**, which will be "based on her life as seen through the eyes of her friends as her career takes off," Variety reported. Sounds great, Lifetime.

Alphas

Tina Fey told the crowd at the Tribeca Film Festival that she didn't know if she could ever do a series with Amy Poehler. Why? Because they're both alphas. According to **people.com**, Fey said, "People sometimes used to say, 'Why don't you guys do a series together?' or whatever. And the funny thing is that I think we both know this to be true, it's because we're actually both alphas. So, it works in short spurts, but I don't know if it would make a real dynasty." Yeah, but we want a series and we want it now.

Two alphas
LA TIMES FILE PHOTO

Come and knock on our door

New Line studios is in talks to pick up the rights to the classic sitcom "Three's Company," with the duo behind "He's Just Not That Into You" writing the screenplay, according to **thr.com**. "Three's Company" centered on two single women who took a man in as a roommate.

Ugh, Katherine Heigl

The former "Grey's Anatomy" star said Wednesday on "The Howard Stern Show" that her past criticism of the movie "Knocked Up," which she starred in, was "dumb." When "Knocked Up" came out, Heigl told Vanity Fair that the movie was "a little sexist," saying that "It paints the women as shrews, as humorless and uptight, and it paints the men as lovable, goofy, fun-loving guys." She told Stern that she liked the movie a lot, she just didn't like herself in the movie, and added that she felt obligated to answer the Vanity Fair interviewer's remark that women felt the movie was sexist.

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